

School Faults Spur Mothers To Oust Hylan

Women Predict Crowded Classrooms and Broken Educational Promises Will Cost Mayor Job at Polls

Parents Seek Vengeance

Neglect of Pupils' Training Regarded as Blow at the Very Heart of America

Women prophesied yesterday that the mothers of the city would defeat Mayor Hylan because of his failure to make good on his promise of a seat for every child.

"The public schools are the bases of our American institutions," said Mrs. Albert Lewis, of 203 West Seventy-eighth Street. "Whoever deals a blow at them is striking at the very heart of America, and is a traitor to the flag for which we asked our boys to die. Mothers who gave their sons to the country, or who are willing to give them in case of need, have a right to demand that the schools shall be the best in the world, not part-time make-shifts."

Mothers Wield Power

"The mothers think that they are helpless, but they have the whole affair

in their own hands. If every mother who has a child in school on part time would come out next week and demand of the men who are running for offices, 'What are you going to do for the children?' they would listen."

Mrs. James B. McKinley, 400 West 150th Street, said: "My daughter is in a private school because I realize that she must have an education and I know that she cannot get it in either of the schools near to where we live, because both are crowded beyond capacity. There is a limit to what teachers can do and that limit has long since been passed in the schools of this city. I came to the decision to put her into a private school with very great regret. I believe in the public schools; I went to them myself. I believe that a child gets something there which is possible nowhere else, but the schools of this city are failing most of all in that very thing—the teaching of democracy—because in their crowded, unsanitary condition they no longer represent the high ideals for which a democracy must stand, if it is to live. I may add, too, that our family physician forbade me to put my little girl into the public schools because he said that in the present insanitary condition of the school buildings it was a very great risk to send any child to them."

Political Needs Revealed

"I wish that the mothers would get together and talk these things over—they could change it all if they just would. Since the schools have been thrown into politics the women of this city ought to turn their attention to politics during the coming week and remind the politicians that they must give an accounting to them—the mothers of the children who have been betrayed in the last four years."

Mrs. Stewart Hirschman, 225 West 186th Street, said: "Every child has a right to an education—that is one of the things which America promises to native-born and to foreign-born alike. The interests of the children have been sacrificed to Tammany. The mothers of

"A Seat for Every Child"

How Mayor Hylan Has Failed in His Campaign Promise for the Public Schools of the City

William Marconi School

The William Marconi School, officially designated as Public School 85, is situated at First Avenue and 117th Street, in the congested Italian section. It is a modern school fitted with thirty-one classrooms, and there is very little play space. About 1,000 more children are registered there than there are seats to accommodate them.

According to the official statistics of the Board of Education 2,073 children are receiving instruction in this school, but the congestion is so great as a result of Mayor Hylan's failure to keep his campaign promise to provide a seat for every child, that no less than 1,387 of the children are receiving only a part-time education.

Of the remaining pupils eighty-eight are in the kindergarten and 538 are on the regular full session basis. At this, the classrooms are badly crowded all the time, and the efficiency of the school suffers seriously.

The school is in the heart of the Italian section and the streets are lined with push wagons. The side streets are crowded with traffic at all

this city should rise up and demand that they shall be called to account for this wrong and that never again shall the schools be made a political football for any party, as was done four years ago. If we could just get home to the mothers what it all means and the simple fact that they hold the balance of power in this election Tammany Hall would go out so quickly that we would forget these four dreadful years."

Teacher Admits Pay Confab at Hylan League

Possibility of Increasing Salaries Was Discussed, but No Definite Promises Given, Asserts Principal

Meeting Called Chance

Deny Political Significance; No Explanation Offered Why Gathering Was Held

William Rabenort, principal of P. S. 55, the Bronx, and president of the principals' association, admitted yesterday that he was one of the twelve principals who attended the conference with Frederick A. Wallis, Mayor Hylan's campaign manager, at which the possibility of increasing the principals' salaries was discussed.

This was the meeting in the headquarters of the Hylan League, in East Forty-second Street, at which Commissioner of Accounts David Hirschfeld and Assistant Corporation Counsel William B. Carswell were present, and at which the principals were urged to support and work for the re-election of Mayor Hylan.

No Promises, Says Principal

Mr. Rabenort, while admitting he was

present, denied that the conference was prearranged, and declared that it was entirely accidental. He said there was no political significance in it and that no promises were made. He did not explain how the twelve principals all happened to be at the Hylan League headquarters at the same time on the same date.

In discussing the conference, which was revealed in yesterday's Tribune, Mr. Rabenort said that The Tribune had undoubtedly printed the story as a result of the history of the efforts of the principals to get graded salaries, so that those principals in charge of larger schools would receive more salary than those of small schools. A Tribune representative was present when the principals arrived at the Hylan headquarters, and one of the principals informed him that they were there at the request of the Hylan League.

Campaign for Salaries

Mr. Rabenort said that the principals had worked persistently for the grading of salaries, first through legislation, then through the Board of Education and now through the Board of Estimate.

"Some of us are down there all the time," he said, referring to the Board of Estimate. He did not explain how the campaign headquarters of the Hylan League could help in getting the grading put through.

He then said that at one time he had prepared figures for M. Samuel Stern, chairman of the Board of Education's budget committee, showing what it would cost to put the grading system into effect. These figures were slightly in advance of \$153,000.

The Tribune report printed Saturday showed that Mr. Wallis, in discussing the situation with the twelve principals who were present, had pointed out

that the Mayor thought he could transfer \$150,000 from other funds to give the principals this increase and that well had said the transfer would be entirely legal.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Stern

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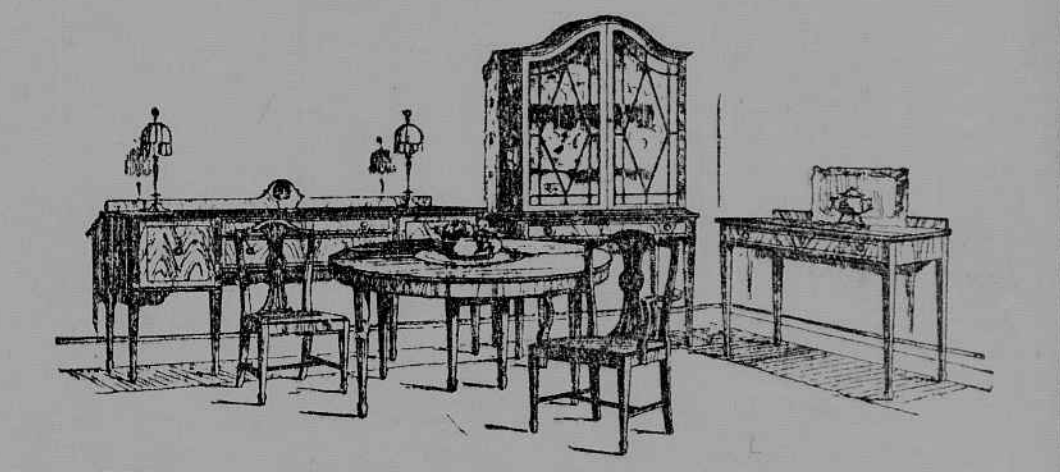
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